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Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 075474

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ORIGIN PM-03

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /004 R

66665
DRAFTED BY: PM: MAS: JLCLUMAN
APPROVED BY: PM: MAS: CHRISTIAN CHAPMAN
---------- 001648
R 210112 Z APR 73
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 075474

FOLLOWING SENT ACTIONSECSTATE WASHDC, DOD WASHDC APRIL 5, 1973
FROM CARACAS IS REPEATED TO YOU: QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 2929

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS VE
SUBJECT: CONVERSATION WITH NEW VENEZUELAN CNO

DOD FOR ADMIRAL ZUMWALT FROM AMBASSADOR

1. I MADE A COURTESY CALL TODAY ON NEW VENEZUELAN CNO, ADMIRAL PEREZ, AND FOUND HIM RECEPTIVE TO FURTHER ASSISTANCE FROM U. S. NAVY. IN PARTICULAR, CNO WAS HOPEFUL THAT WE COULD STILL OFFER VENEZUELA AN LST WHICH WE UNDERSTAND INFORMALLY IS LOCATED IN THE WESTERN PACIFIC EITHER AT YOKOSUKA OR SUBIC. VENEZUELANS WOULD BE PREPARED (ALTHOUGH WITH SOME STRAIN ON PERSONNEL) TO SEND A CREW TO PICK UP THIS VESSEL.

2. ADMIRAL PEREZ, WHO IS HIMSELF A SUBMARINER, IS DELIGHTED AT OFFER OF GRENADIER, WHICH WE UNDERSTAND WILL BE RECHRISTENED PICUA OR BARRACUDA. AS YOUR OFFICE IS AWARE, CAPTAIN JOHNSTON, CHIEF OF NAVY SECTION, MILGP/ CARACAS, IS ALREADY IN KEY WEST WITH VENEZUELAN NAVAL OFFICERS CHECKING OUT THIS BOAT; AND I WAS TOLD THIS AFTERNOON BY ADMIRAL PEREZ THAT VENEZUELAN WOULD HAVE A FULL CREW ON BOARD BY
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15 MAY.

3. CNO INDICATED THAT TWO SUBMARINES ON ORDER FROM GERMANY WILL BE SPECIALIZED FOR CARIBBEAN SERVICE WITH COMPLETE AIR CONDITIONING AND-- MORE IMPORTANT-- A MUCH GREATER DEPTH CAPACITY THAN SUBMARINES PERMITTED GERMANY UNDER THE WORLD WAR II PEACE TREATY. JUST WHAT THAT DEPTH WILL BE, HOWEVER, PEREZ DID NOT INDICATE.

4. IT WAS LIKEWISE CLEAR FROM MY CONVERSATION WITH CNO AND HIS GALAXY OF OTHER ADMIRALS THAT THEY WOULD BE EXCEEDINGLY HAPPY TO HAVE ANOTHER DESTROYER SIMILAR TO EX- BEATTY (NOW CARABOBO) BUT PREFERABLY A VESSEL THAT HAS GONE THROUGH FRAM AND WHICH WOULD HAVE A HELICOPTER AFTERDECK PLATFORM.

5 I AM WRITING YOU SEPARATELY ON YOUR OTHER SUGGESTIONS FOR POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL U. S. NAVAL COOPERATION IN THE CARRIBBEAN; BUT I WOULD LIKE TO REAFFIRM MY SUPPORT FOR COMSOLANT ADMIRAL SHANAHAN' S SUGGESTION FOR A SMALL MULTI-NATIONAL ATLANTIC PATROL FLOTILLA TO GUARD THE STRAITS BETWEEN DAKAR AND THE BULGE OF BRAZIL.

6. WARM REGARDS.
MCCLINTOCK UNQUOTE PORTER

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
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